

## REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were pending and subject to a restriction requirement.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 16 are amended.

Claims 2-3 are cancelled.

Claims 1 and 4-20 are now pending.

### **Amended Claims**

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate claim 3 and to more precisely define n as 3 and (a) as a compound of formula II, III or IV.

As claims 2 and 3 no longer limit claim 1, they have been cancelled.

Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 16 have been amended to change dependency or to limit to make consistent with the amended claim 1.

No new matter has been added.

### **Restriction**

Applicants elect Group I with traverse.

The examiner has stated that the present invention lacks unity in view of US 4655788 (Jalon).

In particular, the examiner goes on to say that under PCT Rule 13.2, the three designated groups do not relate to a single general inventive concept. The examiner believes the special technical feature between the groups appears to be the use of a luminescent rare-earth chelate and solvent in a fiber. Jalon discloses this feature. Thus as stated by the examiner the instant application does not provide a contribution over the prior art.

The Applicants disagree. The same special technical feature of the amended claims is luminescent polymeric fibres comprising a  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  complex with three negatively charged oxygen containing ligands. This special technical feature is common of Groups I, II and III. This technical feature is not anticipated by the prior art cited (Jalon) by the examiner.

Consequently, the amended set of claims is in unity and meets the requirement of Rule 13 PCT.

Thus the applicants request the examiner to reconsider the restriction requirement and to prosecute all claims on the merits.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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